

257.39 Definitions.

As used in [this chapter](#):

1. “*Returning dropouts*” are resident pupils who have been enrolled in a public or nonpublic school in any of grades seven through twelve who withdrew from school for a reason other than transfer to another school or school district and who subsequently enrolled in a public school in the district.
2. “*Potential dropouts*” are resident pupils who are enrolled in a public or nonpublic school who demonstrate poor school adjustment as indicated by two or more of the following:
 - a. High rate of absenteeism, truancy, or frequent tardiness.
 - b. Limited or no extracurricular participation or lack of identification with school, including but not limited to, expressed feelings of not belonging.
 - c. Poor grades, including but not limited to, failing in one or more school subjects or grade levels.
 - d. Low achievement scores in reading or mathematics which reflect achievement at two years or more below grade level.
 - e. Children in grades kindergarten through three who meet the definition of at-risk children adopted by the department of education.

[89 Acts, ch 135, §39](#)